In the Matter Of:

MONTGOMERY COUNTY vs. MERSCORP

11-6968

JOCELYN GALLAGHER

July 18, 2013



800.211.DEPO (3376) EsquireSolutions.com

1	IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
2	FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA
3	MONTGOMERY COUNTY)
4	PENNSYLVANIA, RECORDER OF) NO. 11-6968
5	DEEDS, et al)
6)
7	- vs -)
8	MERSCORP, INC. and)
9	MORTGAGE ELECTRONIC)
10	REGISTRATION SYSTEMS, INC.)
11	
12	Videotaped deposition of JOCELYN GALLAGHER,
13	held at 425 Swede Street, Suite 1001, Norristown,
14	Pennsylvania, on Thursday, July 18, 2013, at 9:11
15	a.m., before Dolores M. Horne, Professional
16	Reporter and Notary Public, in and for the
17	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.
18	
19	
20	ESQUIRE DEPOSITION SOLUTIONS
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- 1 to bucket -- Peachtree buckets the fees?
- 2 A. Yes.
- 3 Q. Talking about different buckets for
- 4 | money that goes to different places?
- 5 A. Correct.
- 6 Q. Okay. And then I think you said the
- 7 | last step is actually disbursing money to those
- 8 | different places --
- 9 A. Correct.
- 10 Q. -- is that right?
- 11 | A. Yes.
- 12 Q. How does that happen?
- 13 A. How does that happen? We have reports
- 14 | that we can run out of Countyfusion that will tell
- 15 us how much was collected on behalf of -- of, say
- 16 | the state writ tax, say affordable housing, say
- 17 | the record improvement, for that sort of thing.
- 18 And then we collate that, make sure that that
- 19 total matches what we have in Peachtree, and we
- 20 | write a check essentially.
- Q. Okay. Who are the different people or
- 22 | entities you write checks to?
- 23 A. There are two that go to the state.
- 24 And, actually, the monies that go to the county we



- 1 do do an ACH to them.
- 2 Q. So, money goes to the state and it goes
- 3 to the county out of this recording fee. Does it
- 4 | go anywhere else?
- 5 A. There is a certain amount that we retain
- 6 | within office.
- 7 | O. Let's talk about right now. Can you
- 8 | break down for me how much by percentage or dollar
- 9 amount, whatever is easier for you, how much of a
- 10 particular recording fee goes to the state, to the
- 11 | county and stays in the Recorder of Deeds office?
- 12 A. Okay. Well, out of the assignment fee,
- 13 | which is \$54, 50 cents of that goes to the state
- 14 | for what is called a state writ tax. There's
- 15 another 23.50 that also goes to the state, and
- 16 | that's the judicial fee. There is the \$15 county
- 17 | fee that goes to the county. There's a \$10 parcel
- 18 | fee that is collected on behalf of Board of
- 19 Assessment, but we send that to the county. And
- 20 | there's a \$5 record -- record improvement fund,
- 21 | that \$3 we retain and \$2 goes to the county.
- 22 Q. So, at least right now out of, I think
- 23 | you said \$54; is that correct?
- 24 A. Yes.



- 1 Q. And that's -- that's the recording fee
- 2 | for an assignment?
- 3 | A. Yes.
- 4 | Q. Is that a mortgage assignment?
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Out of that \$54, three stays with the
- 7 | Recorder of Deeds?
- 8 A. Yes.
- 9 O. Does that just stay in the Univest
- 10 | account?
- 11 A. We have a separate account for that, a
- 12 | record improvement fund.
- 13 | Q. Okay. Do you write a check to yourself
- 14 out of the --
- 15 A. We actually just transfer between
- 16 | accounts once a month.
- 17 Q. Ms. Gallagher, you told me you have an
- 18 | account for recording fees. You made -- you
- 19 | made -- in our example you used an assignment
- 20 | recording fee. Do you keep track of recording
- 21 | fees by particular document?
- 22 A. No.
- 23 Q. Just total recording fees?
- 24 A. Total recording fees.



- 1 Q. So --
- 2 A. We do have reports so we can see the
- 3 | number of different document types that have been
- 4 recorded.
- 5 Q. Okay. And so you could back into the
- 6 | numbers --
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. -- if you needed to?
- 9 A. Uh-huh, yes.
- 10 0. You can take that number and multiply it
- 11 by whatever the rate was at the time, right?
- 12 A. Uh-huh.
- 13 Q. But that's not -- you don't have
- 14 | accounts set up --
- 15 A. No.
- 16 0. -- for different kinds of documents?
- 17 | A. No, no.
- 18 | Q. The division you gave for the mortgage
- 19 | assignment of the \$54, has that been constant
- 20 | during your time in the office?
- 21 A. No.
- 22 | O. Has the Recorder of Deeds office ever
- 23 been able to keep more than \$3 out of that?
- 24 A. No. We're not allowed to.

